**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- -This application is a continuation-in-part of Application Serial Nos. 09/224,114 filed December 30, 1998 (U.S. Patent 6,493,343 issued December 10, 2002) and 09/228,069, filed December 30, 1998, (U.S. Patent 6,163,834 issued December 19,2000) the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference.- -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- -The SAN includes end nodes and routing nodes connected by physical links. Each node may be an end node which generates and consumes data packets. Routing nodes never generate or consume data packets but simply pass the packets along from the source end node to the destination end node. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- -The encoding of the ACB bits is depicted in Fig. 9 ~~where RFD denotes routing flow diagram~~. Note that the first four encodings specify ordered packet delivery so that a specified lane of the Adaptive Set is utilized and the adaptive routing capability is not utilized. The ordering of packets sent from a specific source to a specific destination cannot be assured if adaptive routing is used. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- -When a packet enters the router, it flows through a routing flow diagram (RFD) as depicted in Fig. 10. The Routing Flow Diagram shows the mechanism by which the

router determines which output port the incoming packet is delivered to. The routing decision is based primarily on the incoming packet's Destination ID (DID) field and if the output port is an adaptive set, the ACB filed also. The appropriate bits of the DID index the routing table. The table output determines the output port for the packet if an adaptive set of physical links is not used. If an adaptive set is used, other logic determines the appropriate lane of the adaptive set to use. When a packet is received the RFD designates a preliminary port assignment (PPA) for the packet. If there were no Adaptive Set the packet would be routed to the PPA. The router determines if the PPA is part of a Adaptive Set by comparing it with the static Adaptive Set definition (e.g., Fig. 6). If the PPA is part of a Adaptive Set then the PPA, which contains a physical link number, it is translated into a physical lane number of a particular Adaptive Set. - -

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 11, with the following rewritten paragraph:

- -The ServerNet SAN recovers from errors by retransmitting packets previously transmitted subsequent to the occurrence of an error. As described above, packets that have been transmitted are stored in the receive and transmit FIFOs of the routers in the fabric. Thus, prior to retransmission it must be assured that these state packets, i.e., packets transmitted after the error occurred, are flushed from all the FIFOs. In the preferred embodiment, a path is flushed by performing a barrier transaction, which, in the most general form, is a write of a particular value to the remote end node on the path to be flushed followed by a read of the particular value from the remote node. Clearly, [[~~For~~]] for each link, the barrier transaction packet will not reach the end node until all stale packets preceding the barrier transaction have reached the end node. The end node discards those packets received prior to the barrier transaction packet.- -